THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) The details about total quantity of iron ore exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom by MMTC during the 7th Five Year Plan period are as under :

Qty : lakh tonnes
Val : Rs. crores

Year	Qty.	Value
1985-86	163.96	335.69
1986-87	180.20	362.98
1987-88	145.85	294.42
1988-89	176.45	381.29
1989-90	175.20	496.77
Total	841.66	1871.15

(b) and (c). As per the Government Policy, iron ore suplus to domestic requirements is being exported. MMTC has made efforts to maximise iron ore exports during the Eighth Plan. The details regarding year-wise targets as well as exports of iron ore effected by MMTC during the Eighth Plan are as under :

(In Rs. crores)

Year	Target	Performance
1992-93	738.00	658.94
1993-94	667.89	633.60
1994-95	584.75	660.80
1995-96	688.28	688.90
1996-97 (Apl.-Oct.'96)	724.20	396.39

(d) Presently, iron ore is being mainly exported to Japan, South Korea, China, Pakistan and UAE by MMTC.

(e) During this year, MMTC has signed a five-year Long-term Agreement with Japan and South Korea for export of various grades of iron ore. Another Long term Agreement has been signed with Pakistan, which is valid up to August'97. Proposals have also been received by MMTC for entering into Long-term Agreements with Thailand, China and Saudi Arabia.

Policy Paper on PSUs

401. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to bring out a policy paper on public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal to bring out any separate policy paper on the PSUs at the present since the broad policy parameters have been spelt out in the Common Minimum Programme. To start with, a comprehensive package in respect of PSUs under the administrative control of Ministry of Industry (Department of Heavy Industry) is in the process of being finalised.

Import of Non-Ferrous Metal Waste

402. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the import of non-ferrous metal waste still continues;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the current licensing system has failed to meet the import demand; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (d). Under the current Export and Import Policy, import of certain specified non-ferrous metal scraps identified by the ISRI (Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries) Code Word are permitted freely by all persons. Such imports are basically meant for recycling use. However, Import of all other non-ferrous metal waste and scrap continues to be regulated under the licensing system.

Hindustan Cables Ltd.

403. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Cables Ltd. is incurring losses;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any short and long term plan have been taken to check the losses;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the order book position of Hindustan Cables Ltd. during each of the last three years and till date; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the fresh orders?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Hindustan Cables Ltd. has been incurring losses since 1995-96.

(b) The main reasons for loss are low production due to acute shortage of working capital and huge sundry debtors alongwith excessive manpower cost and high interest charges.

(c) and (d).

i. Government has given guarantee for HCL's overdrawal against cash credit account.